

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 9 Volume XXIII

Happy Holidays!!!

December 8, 1993

Joint Admissions Policy approved by ACC

by Eric Jackel
Staff writer

In accordance with a proposal submitted by President Mara, the All College Committee decided to allow admission at FSC at Junior status for students enrolling from any of the fifteen Massachusetts Community Colleges. This and other proposals were discussed at the ACC's monthly meeting held on December 1.

This plan, known as the "Joint Admissions Policy", will offer a transfer program to students earning Associate degrees at the community college level. At the discretion of FSC administration and faculty, curriculum requirements and specific programs will be planned out so that these students will be guaranteed admission into their desired major course of study. Assuming that these requirements are met and that the student main-

tains a 2.5 GPA, they will enter FSC at Junior status, based on sixty or more credits.

A point of concern for the ACC was that this policy in any way does not guarantee that the student will graduate in only two years with a degree. They must meet the same academic requirements for any major as an incoming freshman would, with the exception of comparable classes taken at the community colleges. The goal of this policy is to increase enrollment which has been falling steadily as of late.

There was some conflict in the decision regarding the assigning of a curriculum in accordance with the community colleges academic catalog. In order for credits to transfer, these colleges must have classes similar to those at FSC. This caused some tension between faculty and administration. Both sides felt that the task belonged on their

agenda.

A compromise was reached, however, and the proposal was approved. It will now return to President Mara for a final ratification. FSC already has a similar system with Mount Wachusett Community College and it is a lengthy process to establish. The policy should take about two or three years to be finalized.

The ACC also asked The Strobe to help in making a decision on another proposal. The committee has been asked to consider banning smoking on the entire college campus. This would include faculty, staff, and students. The Long Range Planning Committee, a subdivision of the ACC, has asked for input from the entire college community of FSC. Anyone who would like to address this issue can send a letter expressing their views to Professor Tod Slone through campus mail.

Mara presents plans at SGA meeting

by Jennifer Scull
Staff writer

President Mara came out opposed to tuition retention at the last SGA meeting of the semester on November 30.

Tuition retention simply means that the tuition of each student would be kept on campus rather than giving it to the state to distribute. Presently, Massachusetts collects tuition from each student and puts it in a general fund. There it is distributed to each state college on the basis of need, not enrollment. Some colleges receive more money now than they would if tuition retention goes into affect. In essence, a trust fund would be under the control of each individual school.

A major drawback to tuition retention is that individual salaries would come out of the trust fund. However, an advantage is that money can move faster because it does not have to go through the state.

President Mara said that since FSC's enrollment is down, it is not advantageous to vote for tuition retention because it would mean less money for the school as a whole. "We do not have enough people arguing for low cost," said Mara, who believes that the cost of

public education "should be as close to zero as possible."

If tuition retention passes, there will be a greater diversity of fees, which is basically an increase in tuition.

The idea of tuition retention is not new. However, the legislature decided that they could keep better control of the money by passing it out themselves.

SGA President Linda Peare also argued strongly against tuition retention. "In the long run, it's going to cost more to go to a public, state college than it is a private institution."

Finally Mara clarified the Five Year Higher Education Plan-Capital Planning Process which had been discussed earlier in the meeting by the council. Individual state college presidents were asked to make out a "wish list" of certain things they wanted or needed fixed at their college. They submitted their proposals, and each college was evaluated on the basis of needs.

President Mara suggested the building of a fitness center but was denied. Everyone was granted deferred maintenance, plumbing, electrical work, roof leaks and the like, however, the rest has to go to economic development.

The plan stated that the state is responsible for \$100 million of the \$200 million total. The remaining

\$100 million would come from students over the next thirty years. Even though this is a five year plan, students will be paying for the next thirty.

Tuition or fee increases would constitute the ways in which a student would account for their portion. President Mara opposes this plan also. "The capital project should be paid by the taxpayers," he said.

Since the student body will be affected by these two issues, SGA members said they would welcome any input, suggestions, or questions they might have.

Marke Vickers, the Director of Admissions, spoke to SGA on the need to recruit more students for the coming year. She developed a brochure filled with many pamphlets and information about FSC. She has asked SGA members to help distribute these folders over winter break to their area high schools or friends, or they could simply drop them off in a local library or doctor's office. Today, high school enrollment is low, so the need to attract as many perspective students as possible is necessary.

Peare also stated the necessity to vote on the bylaws of the constitution. The bylaws are separate entities of the constitution, serving as the SGA rules of order. They included different rules for SGA that

Pledges' trial update

by Audra Johnson
Staff writer

The trial for the two Gaveleers pledges arrested in the October 9 hazing incident is expected to begin in late December or January.

On the weekend of October 8 and 9, Gaveleers members allegedly stranded two pledges, Stephen Burns and Michael Alatalo, in Sherburne, Vermont. The pledges stole a car to return back to Fitchburg and were arrested for numerous charges including possession of stolen property and possession of marijuana.

So far, one pretrial conference has been held on the week of November 15 in Vermont.

Fitchburg Police received search warrants and began an extensive investigation of the Gaveleers house at 55 Snow Street.

According to Campus Police Chief Ted Cunningham, hazing evidence is piling up and criminal charges are in the process of being filed against all of the people involved in the October 9 incident. Evidence of hazing prior to October 9 was retrieved and those persons will also be charged.

On campus charges were filed against five students involved on October 9, and against the two arrested in Vermont. The five students faced the school's Judiciary Board last week. The pledge master for the Gaveleers was expelled from school and will not be eligible for readmittance until Fall of 1994.

Cunningham has banned all students and alumni involved from the campus and residence halls to stop further harassment of the victims and other students.

The Gaveleers are not recognized on campus because of previous alcohol policy violations, but they are no strangers to hazing. In 1991 Gaveleers were arrested in Lancaster, Massachusetts as a result of hazing. Four of the ten allegedly involved on this year's October 9 hazing incident were also arrested in the 1991 incident.

"They knew what hazing was," said Cunningham in reaction to this repeated event. "There is no question in anybody's mind. They knew what they were getting into."

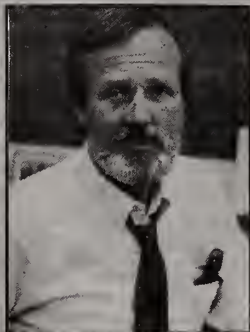


President Mara

could be changed without the vote of the entire student body, such as position requirements, office hours, and council standards.

The members voted to approve the new bylaws as part of the new constitution.

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ISSUE



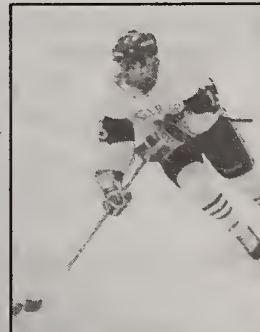
Dr. Jefferson Breen brings his own learning experiences to the classroom.

Story on page 5.



'A Perfect World' is not a perfect movie.

Story on page 9.



FSC Hockey team went 1-0-1 for the week.

Story on page 12.

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Chancellor of Higher Education visits FSC

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

Twelve student representatives were chosen to meet with the Chancellor of Higher Education when he visited the college on November 19. Dr. Stanley Koplik listened for about ten minutes to concerned students about the issues that they felt needed to be addressed.

Student Matt Deveau immediately asked Koplik what he thought could be done to solve problems with registration that he said were brought to his attention by other students. Deveau said

that many seniors will take another semester to graduate this year because they could not even get a red card into the one required class they needed to fulfill their graduation requirements.

Amanda Tuch agreed. "I think that from everyone I see, students don't get the classes that they need," she said. "It seems as though that's really unfair to them when they're trying to graduate."

"You have a legitimate beef, but all I can do is talk to the President about that particular concern, but I have to urge you to keep up the pressure here on your level," said Koplik. "You're the customer, you're the client. Exert

your will on them."

Ed Puliafico mentioned that double majoring is a problem that he seems to find with Education students. "I think it's one of the worst laws that's been passed," he said. The Chancellor did not respond to his comments but Koplik's associate said that the requirements for education majors would be changing in the next couple of years.

Linda Pearce invited the Chancellor to return to FSC to talk about tuition retention adding that many students would like to know his position on it. "I'll be back," said Koplik. "I guarantee it."

College Republicans chapter opens at FSC

by Kris Ruberti
Strobe staff

Do you ever find yourself agreeing with the beliefs, ideas, and policies held by Ronald Reagan, George Bush, William F. Buckley, Bob Dole, or Rush Limbaugh? If you do, a new organization on campus might be just for you.

College Republicans is opening its own chapter here on the FSC campus due to the efforts of senior Steve Van Voohris whose interest in the club peaked last year when he attended a meeting

where people were trying to start a club for the north central Massachusetts area. Someone at that meeting told him about the College Republicans and it was then that he decided to open that chapter.

In order for the chapter to begin, Van Voohris had to write a constitution. "The constitution had to be approved by the Massachusetts headquarters in Boston," he said. The headquarters sent him a sample constitution. The one written by Van Voohris is simple with only a few variations.

The goals of the organization are: to make known the Republi-

can party, to aid the elections of candidates, to aid Republican party organizations, and for members to develop political skills as well as leadership abilities.

There will be an Open House on December 9 at 6:00 pm in Ellis White Lecture Hall. Robert Hawk and Dan Mylott, a Fitchburg Republican Counselor, will be guest speakers. They can discuss ways students can get involved and what they can do in aiding Republican candidates. All are welcome at the meeting.

ABC tours wood burning power plant

by Richard Walsh
Contributing writer

Members of the Fitchburg State College Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) toured the Wood Burning Power Plant lo-

cated in Westminster on November 16, 1993. The tour began with an overview of the one and a half year old power plant given by Andrew Wells, the Plant Superintendent.

The power plant, which burns about 560,000 tons of wood chips

a day at an efficiency rate of approximately 80 percent, pays \$17 per ton for the wood chips and then sells the power produced to Fitchburg Gas & Electric. It produces 17 megawatts of power, enough to provide Fitchburg with one third to one half of its power.

Crime increase at FSC

by Andrew Taylor
Contributing writer

Crime is everywhere in today's society, and the campus of FSC is no different. Over the past three years, crime has escalated, not only in the community surrounding the college, but also on the campus itself.

For years students have been warned about poor relations between the students and the townspeople; now they're being told about the dangers of parties with their classmates.

Each year, more and more seminars are given concerning date rape, domestic violence, and alcohol and drug abuse. Despite the college's numerous programs to educate and protect the student body, incidents still occur on campus.

According to Officer William Mayrose from the public safety office, 80 to 90 percent of all crime is alcohol related. In a report issued to students from Public Safety, arrest for liquor law violations more than doubled, from 7 to 15 in 1991-1992. "Every night there is someone walking around drunk, and you never know if they're going to start trouble," said one junior.

Students going out and getting drunk is a problem in itself, but the incidents occurring as a result have not only Public Safety concerned, but also the Office of Residence Life, which recently implemented a new Alcohol Policy to protect its residents.

The leading reported crime on campus is theft. Common items stolen include money, clothing, and books. "Stealing of books is a big business," said Mayrose. Students steal books and then return them for the money. This usually occurs more frequently at the beginning and end of each semester.

Sex offenses are alive on campus as well. In 1991, there were five rapes and in 1992 there were three forcible sex offenses. There is no difference between rape and a forcible or non-forcible sex crime. Public Safety was required to include rape in broader categories for the report that they put out. No longer will Public Safety use rape as a category. Instead, sex crimes will be placed under the labels of forcible and non-forcible sex crimes.

All crimes are unfortunate, but many of them can be prevented. Despite warnings of theft and vandalism by Resident Assistants, students still leave their rooms unlocked and unattended. Students are warned about rape and assault, but they still choose not to use the Student Escort Service put into effect by Public Safety.

The campus of FSC is a special place, but not special enough to be without danger and violence.

FSC conducts survey

by Dr. George Bohrer

Fitchburg State is currently conducting a study to determine how we are perceived as an institution of higher learning. As a part of this study, 600 current FSC students were randomly selected and sent survey questionnaires. From these surveys we want to learn how students feel FSC is serving their needs. What do we do well? What should we be doing better? What services should we provide? These respondents have the opportunity to have a voice in the directions Fitchburg State will be taking as we plan our future. Their response is of immense importance.

If you have received a survey, and have not yet returned it, please take the time to complete it and send it in today. You will be doing yourself, your fellows and the college an important service.

FSC offering "lifelong learning" courses

FSC Press Release

Always wanted to unlock the mystery of handwriting analysis? Learn about personal computers? Study the art of calligraphy?

In addition to its usual line up of academic courses, Fitchburg State College will sponsor a number of non-credit "lifelong learning" courses as part of the new course offerings that begin in January.

"We've found that many people look to the college for courses that simply enrich their lives," said Catherine Canny, director of continuing education at the college. "So we've added that focus and now there are a variety of courses costing as little as \$35."

Among the offerings: introduction to scuba diving, parent and child holiday crafts, piano instruction, and financial investments.

For more information, contact the Office of Graduate and Continuing Education at 345-2151, ext. 3181.



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a combined SRP of \$596*). And, when you qualify for the new Apple Computer Loan, the entire package shown here costs about \$30* a month. So, for high-quality programming, turn on a Macintosh or PowerBook. It does more. It costs less. It's that simple.

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Students get an edge with Extern program

by Craig Cucchiara
Strobe staff

Ask any recent college graduate what the job market is like right now and you're likely to hear two common words among the responses - it stinks!

Companies, big and small, are scaling back their workforce. It isn't enough anymore to go through four years of college and assume you will be hired once you've got a diploma in your hand. Today, college students need to take advantage of all possible opportunities to make themselves more attractive to employers. Students need to

focus their education and gain experience working in an environment similar to where they want to work upon graduation.

The Career Services Center here at Fitchburg State College urges students who are serious about their education and who have some idea where they might like to work in the future to take part in its Extern Program.

The program, now in its second year, is set up mainly for sophomores and juniors who would like to see what different work environments might be like. Alumni of FSC who are working

at various locations across Massachusetts have volunteered their assistance in letting participants in the Extern Program go into their respective places of work and observe. The idea is for students to see whether or not they might like doing the kind of work they are exposed to.

The program is different from an internship. Students who participate in the Extern Program do so for only a couple of days over the intercession. Students are not expected to work, although there is some interaction between students and personnel in the workplace.

Students do not receive credit for going through the Extern Program.

Michelle Vitti-Lawton, staff member with FSC's Career Services, described the program as a valuable tool for students to "network" with business professionals. Connections made in different workplaces are valuable resources to draw upon when searching for a job.

Vitti-Lawton went on to explain that the ideal situation for a student would be to do an externship in their sophomore and junior year, using each experience to make a decision as to where the

student would best fit for an internship in the senior year. The work experience, practical skill and knowledge, and business connections made by this kind of career focus, while still in college, can really open doors for a graduate seeking a career.

Students interested in focusing their education with either an externship or an internship, or students who are merely curious about what life might be like after graduation, are strongly encouraged to visit with the helpful staff of Career Services. The office is located on the third floor of the Hammond Building.

Student offers housecleaning service

by Bert Pimentel
Contributing writer

A FSC student is doing his part to keep this college clean. For the price of about \$5 and a meal, students can have their off campus houses cleaned for them.

Twenty-one year old Todd Shea has a solution to a big problem. Shea says, "When I lived at 44 Green Street last year, the place was disgusting. We'd throw a party and no one would want to clean the next day." This is not an uncommon scenario.

One simple fact is that college students have a lot to do. Being a full-time student is very demanding. Many students have at least part-time and some full-time jobs. Throw in a social life and rest time, and there isn't much time to clean house. This could be an easy alternative.

The price of \$5 per floor may vary slightly, depending on how dirty the apartment is. The usual

procedure begins when a friend or friend of a friend calls asking for the service. Upon Shea entering the house, the tenants will normally offer Shea refreshments and conversation. When ready, Shea will go to work and clean vigorously for about an hour. Upon completion, the tenants will either eat a meal with him or prepare him his own. There is no standard as to what the food must be, but most students go out of their way to make a nice dinner.

For Shea, his reward is not just the money, which is very important, but the satisfaction of a job well done. He explains, "When I'm done cleaning a house, I feel good because I know I've done my friends a favor as well as made someone's apartment a better place to live."

Is he really doing students a favor? FSC student Trisha Cronin feels so. "I live with three other girls, and no one has time to clean.

By the end of the week the place looks pretty bad, so every Saturday we give Todd a call and the place is spotless."

The money made is very important to self-supportive Shea, who is paying his own way through school. He makes most of the money for his school and rent, catering over the summer, but a lot more is needed. "I pay for my food and utilities with the cleaning money," he says.

So is business booming? It would appear so, he is averaging about ten jobs a week, which provides him with \$50 and ten free meals. On large jobs he will often ask a friend to help and split the money. On these jobs they might get tipped as well.

Everyone seems happy about this service. Students get clean houses for a low fee, and Shea pays his way through school. Chalk one up for the small business man!

'Twas the Night Before Christmas...

by Carol Hatch
Contributing writer

'Twas the week before Christmas when all through the house not a creature was stirring except for myself.

My stocking I put in the washer with care, in hopes that I'd have some clean clothes to wear.

I picked up a book and as I read, Visions of ambulances danced in my head.

Our furry old tom cat crawled into my lap, and had just settled down for a long winter's nap.

When out on the porch there arose such a clatter, I ran down the stairs to see what's the matter.

There in the doorway stood a man in a big mustache. "Up the road," he said, "there had been a car crash."

I smiled at him and said not to worry, blood, gore and trauma that is my forte.

The tall man was nervous and shaking with fright, "I'll call for help," he said as he ran into the night.

Again on my porch there arose quite a clatter, I opened the door to see what was the matter-

When what to my wondering eyes should appear, but a man bleeding profusely and reeking of beer.

"Come in sir," I said as I reached for his pulse he seemed to have a nasty head laceration and nothing else.

It was about 10 minutes, if not more Before a first responder appeared at my door.

And in that time I had cleaned up the patient applied direct pressure, offering first aid treatment.

The first responder opened their med. kit and was fumbling around I grabbed her BP cuff and told them to write this stuff down.

It was another five minutes before I heard a wail "It was a fireman" she said "must have followed the blood trail."

"Good grief," I moaned. "Was an ambulance dispatched?"

"Why yes," she replied. "I just saw them go pass."

Finally they arrived backboard in hand. However, they had not brought a cervical collar for this poor man.

This blunder corrected, their errors a few and about 15 minutes I thought they were through.

When in through the door marched the fire chief and his crew. Some late first responders and three policemen,

They all knew each other, and the injured man. I was happy to see, and wondered if I,

Should have coffee and doughnuts and some slices of pie. After introductions and a few good laughs

They loaded the stretcher and headed off in the bus. And I heard the driver exclaim as they drove out of sight

"Like which way to the hospital, Dude, to left or to the right?"

*Based on a true story.

Craft Center a treat to FSC

by Michelle Slosberg
Contributing writer

Most students complain that FSC never gives them anything. Well, did you know that each semester the school gives each student three dollars back from those evil activities fees, valid towards creativity? And three dollars goes a long way here, as opposed to many other places. This creativity credit may be redeemed at the Craft

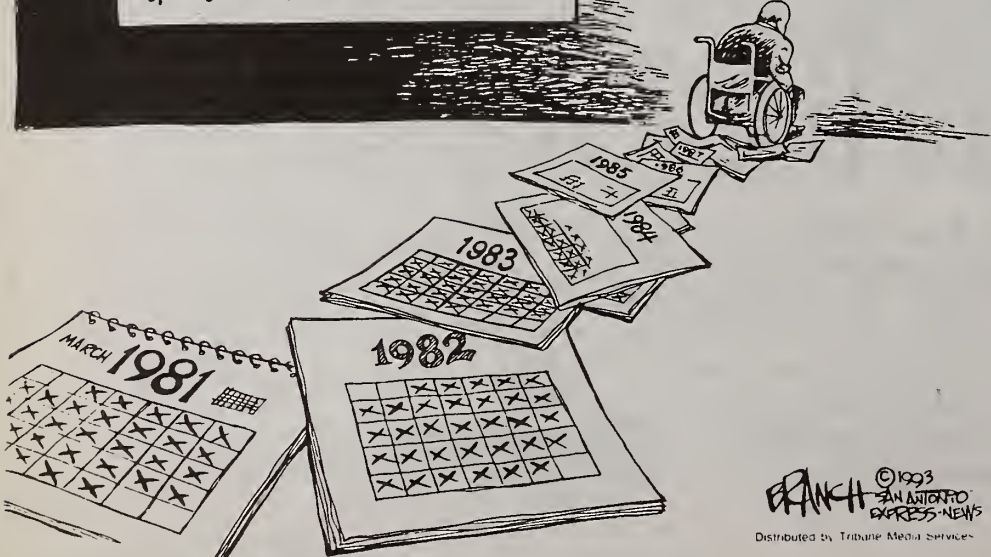
Center, but this will be the last semester of its existence.

The Craft Center has plenty of materials available, such as beads with potential for becoming jewelry, vulnerable waxes waiting to be molded into various jewelry forms, pine cones begging to be transformed into trees or animals, and fabric paints willing to liven up any piece of clothing you choose. Also, there is glass etching with mugs available for experimentation, and pottery wheels and clay that will spin out

anything you command, along with many other resources. Remember, handmade crafts make the best holiday gifts, especially when you're low on cash!

So come on down to the Craft Center and free both your creativity and some very bored materials. The hours are Monday through Wednesday 3:30-9:30PM, Thursday 1:30-9:30PM, closed on Friday and Saturday, and open Sunday 6:30-9:30PM.

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(20 WORDS)

Professor Profiles

Dr. Breen brings cultural experience to classroom

by Jason Koivu
Staff writer

Dr. Jefferson Breen, a member of FSC's Psychology Department since 1971, is a teacher who believes in using his own learning experiences in the classroom.

Breen teaches courses, such as the Psychology of Personality, of Death and Dying, of Human Sexuality, and Principles of Guidance, which he feels his students can relate to. He tries to give them an education which will affect their lives and stick with them even after they've left college. Breen's clinical work also allows him to present actual case studies to his students.

Along with articles for medical journals, Dr. Breen has written a book entitled "You Are a

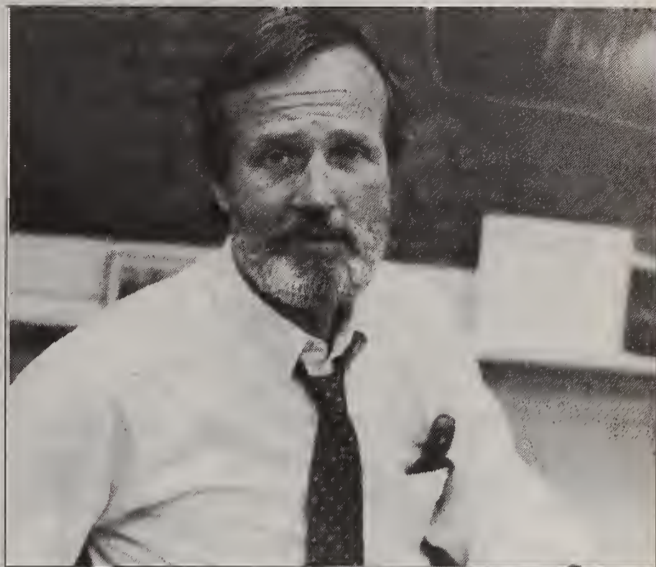
Person of Worth", a self-help book of personal application on self-esteem, based on his work as a psycho-therapist.

He's involved in a number of activities, one of which is FSC's exchange program with Nicaragua, in which he instructs professors there on developing master's degree level courses. This and other endeavors provides him with the opportunity to do what he enjoys the most, travel.

"I think that if you are in the field of education, traveling is one of the greatest learning experiences you can get," said Breen. "For me, especially as a person who is trying to teach students about people, it's a wonderful experience as I travel to different cultures to see how the people there behave as opposed to ourselves."

Breen tries to bring the most of what he's learned on his trips back to the classroom. He recently made a trip to New Mexico. There he befriended a native American social worker on a reservation. What he learned from that person of the modern Indian culture he was able to integrate into his classes.

"I always come back and share experiences with the students. And I find them very receptive about it, because, like me, they didn't know about some of their rituals and behaviors. We're just unaware of it," said Breen. "I think we have to face the reality that we're living in a multicultural world and every year that goes by, it just becomes bigger and bigger. And if I, as a professor am not addressing it to my students, I feel I'm not doing my job."



Dr. Jefferson Breen

Dr. Alonso, a leader in advocating equal rights for women

by Jason Koivu
Staff writer

Dr. Harriet Alonso, of FSC's History Department since 1989, is very active in promoting equal rights for women.

"I like to teach, read and write about women's history in the United States and all over the world," says Alonso, who is currently working on a book about William Lloyd Garrison, an abolitionist of the nineteenth century. The book will focus on the Garrison family history. In doing her research, Alonso even had the opportunity to speak Garrison's great-grandchild. She has also written two other books which deal with peace movement his-

tory.

Alonso, soon after coming to Fitchburg from Brooklyn, NY, became involved in the revitalization of the Women's History Month organization at FSC. Her, another faculty member, and a group of students are responsible for setting up a calendar of events for the month of March. Guest speakers will be brought in, appropriate films are picked to be shown, and artists as well as musicians are booked to perform. Since her arrival, the organization has grown over the past few years and student involvement is on the rise.

Dr. Alonso came to FSC by a change in careers. She had been teaching English at the college level and ESL (English as a Second Language) for fifteen years

and decided that it wasn't really what she wanted to do.

"I fell into Women's History kind of by accident and knew right away that I loved it," says Alonso, who wasn't a big fan of history before that. "I hated it in high school and I hated it as an undergraduate." However, she'd soon fall in love with it after visiting a Women's History class at Sarah Lawrence College, where she'd go on to get her master's degree on that subject.

After acquiring her degree, Alonso sent out her resume and was asked to come to FSC. Though she had no idea where Fitchburg was and had to, in fact, look at a map to find it, she readily accepted the position with the job market being as poor as it is.

Amnesty International Corner

Amnesty International is a worldwide human rights organization that works to free Prisoners of Conscience, people who have been imprisoned for their beliefs, race, or religion. The organization receives word of these human rights violations and immediately organizes a letter writing campaign to the heads of the government in the country where the violations have transpired. When 10,000 letters from all over the world land on this leader's desk denouncing his actions, changes occur.

Airograms used to write these actions can be obtained free of charge by writing to Amnesty International here at Fitchburg State through campus mail. Make a difference-write a letter.

EL SALVADOR- APPARENT POLITICAL KILLINGS/
FEAR FOR SAFETY
SALUTATION- DEAR MINISTER

Amnesty International is gravely concerned over the apparent political killings of Manuel de Jesus Acevedo, age 29, and Remberto Antonio Lopez, age 19. Acevedo was a member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, a political party in El Salvador. The two were found shot dead on 8 November in a rubbish dump with their hands tied behind their backs with barbed wire, each showing clear signs of torture. These killings came days after the murders of four FMNLF members, and they further Amnesty International's fears for the safety of FMNLF members and the members of other opposition parties in the race for the presidential and legislative elections to be held in March of 1994.

-Express concern at the killing of the two men, particularly in view of several other killings of FMNLF leaders and members.
-Request an immediate investigation be carried out into these killings and that those found responsible be brought to justice.
-Urge the authorities do all in their power to guarantee the safety of members of opposition parties in the months leading to the March 1994 elections.

Minister of the Presidency
Dr. Oscar Alfredo Santamaria
Ministro de la Presidencia
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

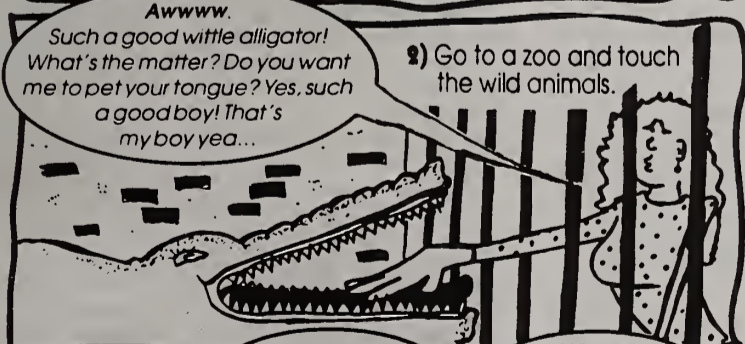
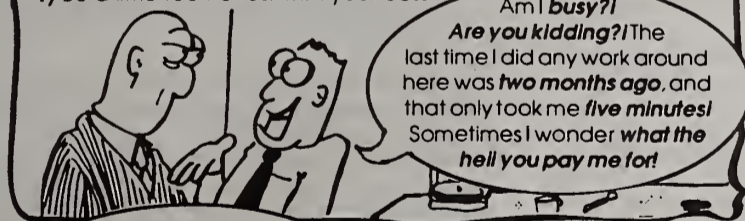
Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

"Misfortunes, when asleep, are not to be awakened." —English Proverb

JUST A FEW WAYS TO ASK FOR TROUBLE

1) Be a little too honest with your boss.



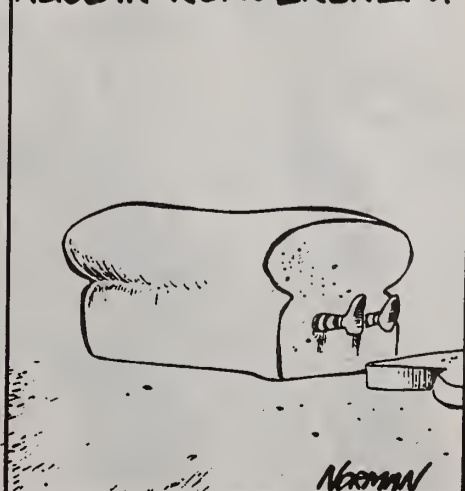
3) Be a wise-ass to a cop.



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LACK OF FOCUS

ALICE IN WONDERBREAD.



Disturbed by Troune Media Services

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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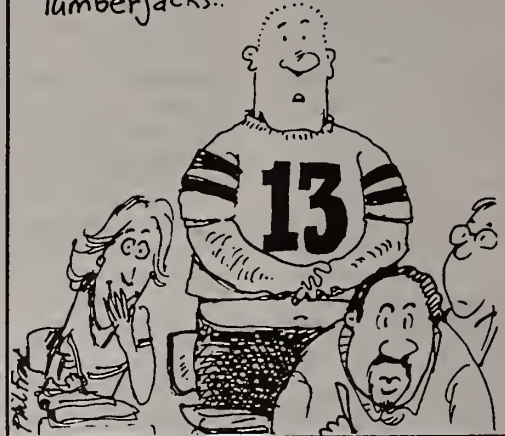
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Frankly Speaking

by Phil Frank

The meaning of "Logarithm"?
Um.. I believe it's a type of birth
control practiced by... um..
lumberjacks..



From The Editor's Desk...

"If this is it, doo-wop, please let me know."

-Huey Lewis and the News

Well, campers, this is it. This is the last editorial I will write under the title of Editor-in-Chief, a title I have held for the last year. I'm preparing for my last semester of college and did not want to spend the majority of it within the cavernous walls of the enclave we call The Strobe office.

The person taking over my position is an extremely competent and vivacious lass named Kristi Widberg, who will lead this paper towards a shot at its second Organization of the Year award. I have no reservations about her stewardship. The entire staff has been a treat this semester; it has been a relatively smooth one. Nights usually spent until 3:30AM piecing this bitch together have been replaced by ones spent until 10:00.

This farewell is a bittersweet one. When I first joined the newspaper spearheading the Opinion section in Spring of 1991, I did so because I was extremely discouraged by the abundance of apathetic idiots that roamed this campus. I felt that if I could somehow try and stimulate some sort of intelligent discussion or thought I would have left my mark and graduated confident that I had done something to better this campus other than pay for a few banquets with my tuition. Looking around, I'm not so sure that I have.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with but a single step, and a

few individuals have been nice enough to compliment me on these editorials, and for that I am extremely thankful. It is a reward well worth the effort. Perhaps I aimed my bow a little too high, shooting to change too much in people who had no interest in changing. Perhaps I gave people too much credit, assuming that they read something in The Strobe other than the Personals.

One of the things that I tried to keep consistent was not to appear holier-than-thou in my writings. I realized that pointing out problems and not offering solutions amounts to nothing but a great deal of hot air. I certainly have no perch above everyone else upon which to stand. I have failed my share of classes, and I wrestle with my own set of demons like everyone else. Given this, sometimes my writings can come off as hypocritical, something I have been accused of being. This was not my intention, I merely wished to present solutions untainted by my own personal misgivings, things which would detract from the impact of the message I sought to send. If that makes me a hypocrite, so be it.

When I first started writing editorials, I focused on national political issues like abortion (I caught a lot of flak for that one), PAC's, the war in the gulf, and the presidential elections. I began to realize that none of the issues I was discussing were going to be solved or even changed by some idealistic scribe waxing philosophical on the pages of his college paper. Recently I

have tried to make the issues more personal, dealing with changes that can be made within one's self, and I feel that they have been more successful than the ones in which I tried to change the whole campus or country. As someone who is preparing to leave college, my main message has been to do everything you can to better yourself while you are here. The time we have here is dreadfully short, and it is an immensely important period. Don't find yourself awaiting your diploma in May lamenting for what could have been. Take those chances, play the fool, volley the advances, break a rule.

I will miss the privilege of writing under the "From the Editor's Desk" headline. I will not miss the hours spent here, or as Boston Globe columnist Ellen Goodman puts it, "Being married to a nymphomaniac. Every time you think you're finished, you have to get up and do it all over again." I will probably write sporadically next semester, when the need hits me. But until then, to those who have taken these writings to heart, I thank you, for you have made it all worthwhile. Fare ye well.

"Mama, mama, many worlds I've come since I first left home."
-Grateful Dead

"Better pass boldly into that other world, in the full glory of some passion, than fade and wither dismally with age."
-James Joyce

LETTERS TO THE STROBE

President Mara congratulates Campus Rescue Squad

Letter to the Editor:

Please allow me to use this space to express words of deep appreciation and genuine congratulations to our Campus Rescue Squad. The efforts of these student volunteers to serve as EMT Specialists and First Responders on our campus is an extraordinary contribution to the enhancement of the safety and well being of all members of our college community. A most recent offer to provide an EMT class in the spring semester is but one more example of their superlative volunteerism. We should all rejoice in their eagerness to serve.

While passing out kudos, I wish to add words of congratulations to the staff of The Strobe for giving us thus far this semester an excellent college student newspaper.

Sincerely,
Vincent J. Mara
College President

Take it easy on the soundman!

I understand the mission of journalistic writing, art criticism pieces, and play reviews is to be upbeat and honest, but please Strobe reporters, don't hound that soundman!

I am referring to the article that appeared in the November 16th issue which mentioned some technical difficulties during the recent P.A.C. presentation of "Gran Ballet Folklorico of Mexico". Some who read your review might not know that the soundman you talked about was not a hired professional. He is a dedicated communications-media student, Bill Arbuckle, who in what little spare time life as a full-time undergrad offers, volunteers unnoticed and unappreciated hours to bring a bit of culture into this institution.

Unlike other schools of higher education, FSC allots only funds (derived from various sources, including the all-popular and revered student fees) to support the continuation of a Performing Art Series. While the Programs Committee, with assistance from the Campus Center/Student Affairs, present to the college and community each year. Most other schools have the luxury of hiring professionals and work study students, we must rely on students in the Programs Committee, like Bill.

So please in the future Strobe reviewers and audience, have mercy with your comments. Rumor has it that if the budget axe falls where it is aimed, next season might be a culturally bleak one, with perhaps no Performing Art Series at all; which would mean no amateur soundmen either.

If you feel you must blame someone for the technical difficulties you should direct your comments at me for trying to save forty dollars, and not hiring the sound technician.

Sincerely,
Sally Fortin-Francis
Graduate Assistant



Alcohol Policy continues to be inadequate

by Andrew Taylor
Contributing writer

Imagine being old enough to drink and then being "written up" for doing so. This is what happens to a countless number of students living in the residence halls at Fitchburg State College each year.

The current policy created by the office of Residence Life took effect last Fall semester. The purpose of the policy was to stop excessive drinking in the residence halls. Residence life was also hoping to cut down on violence and vandalism as a result of excessive drinking.

Many students are "written up" for alcohol related incidents and don't realize what they did was a

violation. Some of the rules that students on campus think should be dropped or altered are that an empty case of beer cans constitutes a full case. Also, if you are of age and your roommate isn't, he/she cannot be present if you are drinking an alcoholic beverage.

Sean, a 22 year-old Senior said, "I refuse to ask my roommate who is under-age to leave the room if I'm having a beer and watching a game. That's ridiculous."

The current policy also states that a resident cannot keep personal belongings in alcohol related paraphernalia, such as empty beer boxes for storage or paper clips in a bottle. Also, students who are of age cannot pool their alcohol together, meaning that if you and a friend buy a six pack each, it cannot come into

a residence hall in the form of a twelve-pack because that would be exceeding your six-pack limit. They must be separated.

The upper-class students on campus, especially those living in the Townhouses feel that they are not being treated as mature adults. A 21 year-old Junior said, "In order to live in the Townhouses you have to prove yourself as mature residents. Why don't they start treating us like that?"

Residence Life should take a closer look at its Alcohol Policy and make the changes necessary to allow students who are of age to do so more freely, without worrying and being penalized. When you're 21 or older you shouldn't have to look over your shoulder every time you want a drink.

An incident on the volleyball court

by Peter Johnson
Contributing writer

I've just sat down and am relaxing after our intermural volleyball game at the Parkinson Gym in which our team, the Spikers, lost in a game maimed with controversy.

There was an intense volley during the second set that ended with a truly ugly incident. If you know volleyball at all the term "spike" may come to mind. During the second set, a Spiker player did just that into one of the opposing players face. As a result her glasses came

flying off and broke. Yes, she has a right to be upset due to the fact that glasses are not cheap and now this young lady must purchase a new pair of glasses which probably does not make her happy in the least. There, she got my sympathy vote for 1993, but her reaction to the incident was less than adult.

The Spiker player in question had no intention what-so-ever to injure her or break her glasses. For the rest of the game she acted like a third grader, and I should know since I teach them three days a week.

Now I have played college athletics and have seen injuries and broken glasses alike. It is part of the game. If one is actively involved in a sport, they are signing an unwritten disclaimer that they will accept anything that happens to their body or what is on it. The young lady in question did not mind in the least when her team had a spike for a point or serve. Yet, when we made a magnificent play which ended up with a Spalding etched in her face and her glasses in two on the gym floor she was upset. Let the Spalding be her Scarlet Letter.

Responses to Fortune Teller

Dear Mr. Braun,

Thank you for your letter regarding the fortune teller at Fitchburg Square Day. The Programs Committee appreciates feedback, both positive and negative, to provide a guide for future planning.

The Programs Committee consists of students who carefully pick and plan events with the assistance of a faculty member and graduate

assistant. It is our responsibility to provide a variety of activities to the diverse community at Fitchburg State College. While not every activity appeals to every individual, everyone has the freedom to choose whether or not they wish to participate. This committee does not feel that a fortune teller promotes negative behaviors, nor should it be implied that we are supporters of occult practices. However, we do

it must be revised.

One of the largest factors that makes each club and organization different is its purpose. The purpose of the Programs Committee of the SGA is to offer "activities and events which shall include a broad spectrum of form and taste, but which shall be relevant to the campus community". This committee can not please every student every time it holds an event. The Student Government Association has confidence and trust in the clubs and organizations that they will determine what events to sponsor in keeping with the club or organization's purpose and the interest of the student population. If there was such a crowd, as Mr. Braun stated, then the purpose was fulfilled.

I would also like to point out that the "Fortune Teller" was actually a Palm Reader. This was not the only event being held in G-Lobby. November 16th was Fitchburg Square Day, similar to the Harvard Square

apologize for any offense you may have taken to this event.

We are always open to new ideas and suggestions, and welcome you to attend our first meeting of the Spring semester. It will be on January 24, 1994 at 6:00 pm in room G-04 of the Hammond Building.

Sincerely,
Gary S. Reese, Coordinator
Programs Committee

Day. Therefore, there were other events going on such as a tattoo artist and a caricaturist. All of which were sponsored by the Program Committee of SGA.

As for the treatment Mr. Braun received in the SGA Office, I do apologize. We try to portray a professional atmosphere in our office, but keep in mind we are still students.

If any one has any further questions in regard to any aspect of the Student Government Association, please feel free to contact me in the SGA office. Also, every student is welcome to attend any and all SGA meetings. Our meetings are held every Tuesday evening in G-04 and G-05 at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting will be held on January 25, 1994. Programs Committee of SGA meets every Monday evening in G-04 at 6:00 pm.

Thank you.
Linda L. Peare
SGA President

Happy living tips

by Mike Donnelly
Contributing writer

"My roommate sucks. I've had it up to here with his loud music, obnoxious friends, excessive drinking and disregard for my safety. I can't study without going to the school library or sleep without several requests of him to quiet down."

Sound familiar? College is supposed to be an enjoyable experience where study and classes share time with equally important activities and entertainment. An excess of either tends to disrupt the experience.

"I don't feel safe outside my apartment. My car isn't safe parked in the street and when it snows I'm parked illegally and could get towed."

You have a right to expect that you and your possessions are safe. You have a responsibility to ensure that you have done your part to make that a reality. Use the locks that your landlord provided you or install additional locks with his permission. Park in a parking lot that is well lit, monitored, and managed.

"My utility costs are outrageous. My apartment windows leak and getting money from my roommates is like pulling teeth."

Your parents harped on you to conserve water, heat, and electricity. Now you know why. An apartment where utilities are provided can ease your frustration.

"Living in the dorms is like spending time in prison. Even when we go off-campus it's like we are in this wristband program where our actions are monitored all the time."

Good kids are proud of their actions and behavior. Guidelines are established to encourage responsible behavior and to let you know the consequences of irresponsible behavior. In fact, the rules are generally set by a majority of reasonably intelligent people just like you. And, the rules probably make for a more desirable living experience.

If you're thinking of moving because of one of these complaints or one of a thousand others, you are not alone.

Next time look for a safe, clean, quiet living atmosphere with a roommate who wants the same. Find a property manager or owner who cares about his property, the neighborhood and your safety. Ask other students about their landlord. He's going to ask you for references so ask for his references. Common courtesy says you should let your present landlord know that you intend to move. The law establishes how much notice is required.

If you have a lease, asking someone what your options are would be a good next step. College life is too short and too expensive to stay in a miserable situation.

Your Real Horoscope



by Ruby Wyner-lo
A.A.B. certified Astrologer

Aries: (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) Mathematical concerns go awry when the Quadratic Equation is changed in the middle of the week.

Taurus: (Apr. 20-May 20) Expect to be jailed when law-enforcement officials discover that your laundry hamper is a gateway for alien colonists.

Gemini: (May 21-June 21) Your penchant for licking farm animals will be discussed in a frank newspaper editorial.

Cancer: (June 22-July 22) You still can't cope with the fact that Diet Pepsi's National Uh-Huh Month is over.

Leo: (July 23-Aug. 22) A short man wearing Lederhosen will spray you with a garden hose.

Virgo: (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Variety adds vitality to your sex life. Why not try the Flying Dutchman position for a change?

Libra: (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Go for the moment, because a week from next Wednesday you'll be trampled by oxen.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) You put an early end to your promising musical career when your glockenspiel solo is cut from the symphony program.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) A miscalculation with jumper cables will cause you to explode in a burst of fire and ash.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Business associates will be so impressed by your hard labor that they'll steal your best ideas and claim them as their own.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Try actions rather than words. Throw a meat cleaver at your boss today.

Pisces: (Feb. 19-Mar. 20) Your charitable contribution to the community youth center will be used to purchase guns and heroin.

Farmers, you need suffer drought no more! Ruby Wyner-lo will personally come to your farm and find water with a divining rod.

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Happy Holidays
from The Strobe!

Waits, Wilson, Burroughs combine for The Black Rider

by Eric Hellweg
Strobe staff

On November 20, *The Black Rider*—The Casting of the Magic Bullets, the culmination of three disparate and powerful creative minds was premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. An adaptation of an old German fairy tale, this remake was directed by Robert Wilson (Einstein on the Beach), the text was written by William S. Burroughs (Naked Lunch, Junky), and the music was written by Tom Waits (Bone Machine, Frank's Wild Years). It was the first project that these three American artists had combined on, and one can only hope that it won't be the last.

The play centered around the plight of a young couple, Kathchen and Wilhelm, who can't be united in marriage because the young girl's father won't allow his daughter to marry anyone but a hunter. Wilhelm is a clerk and

couldn't shoot his way out of a paper bag, and is thus driven to make a deal with the devil for some magic bullets that are guaranteed to hit their target. As is always the case, Wilhelm gets a little more than he bargained for, and in the end it is this deal that makes him lose his bride, not his inability to hunt.

The Thalia Theater of Hamburg, Germany was the troupe that performed this play, which has been successfully touring Europe for the last year to critical accolades and lucrative box office receipts. The majority of the text of the play was in German, with English subtitles on a screen above the stage. With the expressive staging, lighting, and acting, however, it was not hard at all to follow along with the action. Most of the actors' techniques had their roots in Eastern opera, from the garish makeup accentuating the eyes, to the flailing arm movements signaling confusion and desperation.

It is quite an accomplishment, and a testament to Wilson's prowess

as a director and an artist that the entire crowd at the play was enraptured with the presentation the majority of which they didn't understand. I have never witnessed a play where the staging and lighting had as much of an impact on the play as the actors. This was the case with *The Black Rider* where trees shrank as Wilhelm was receiving his magic bullets and they exploded upwards in a cacophony when he began firing. This was the case as a rival for Kathchen's love went insane in the deep forest and was entwined in ropes, each pulling in a different direction under a pulsating red light to the strains of Waits' score.

The Devil's Rhubato Band was in the pit performing the tracks off of Waits' new album, also entitled *The Black Rider*. Essentially a soundtrack recording, the music is Tom Waits' interpretation of Wilson and Burroughs' staging. Based in Russian opera, Brecht/Weill's German whiskey songs, and spa-

ghetti westerns, *The Black Rider* soundtrack is an amalgamation only someone with the panache of Tom Waits could pull off. Taken out of context some of it is not as easily accessible as his past albums, but this endeavor is no less artistically stimulating. The actors sang the songs in English and they came off very well. William Burroughs "the great godfather of punk", wrote the lyrics on two of the numbers and his snide twisted cynicism shines through on these selections.

The beauty of *The Black Rider* was that the entire production—the lighting, the staging, the score, everything was in and of itself an artistic statement, from the opening scene where the devil's red high heeled shoe appeared from within a giant black box to the closing scene where Wilhelm's bare foot retreated into the same box, everything was of succinct but far-reaching beauty. Seeing this play has put me in a dream of such wonder and beauty that I haven't been able to

fully awaken for weeks.

The only bad thing about the play was its brief run at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Only running through December 1, *The Black Rider* will return to Europe to resume touring. Waits and Wilson have coupled again to produce a play entitled *Alice* that is currently playing in Germany. With a little luck, perhaps the US will be lucky enough to have this production grace its shores.

There were quite a few celebrities at the premiere of this play. As I was leaving the theater, I looked to my right and saw I was walking with Lou Reed. I asked him what he thought of the play, and his response mirrored mine: "Phenomenal." Also spotted at the play: performance artist Laurie Anderson (currently Lou Reed's significant other), supermodel Linda Evangelista (I had no problem spotting her), celebrity photographer Annie Liebovitz, producer Brian Eno, singer/poet Patti Smith, and society dame Bianca Jagger.

The troubled lives of Beavis and Butthead

by James McCabe
Contributing writer

Many of us are aware of the problems which face adolescents in today's society but are we aware enough?

Pressures put on our youth come from all angles; school, home, sex, peers and the community. Largely misunderstood and mistreated, the youth of today is in trouble. Realizing that something must be done, I took it upon myself to research the problem. It was this research that led me to a valuable resource, namely, *This Book Sucks*, by Sam Johnson and Chris Marcell, chronicling the lives of "Beavis and Butthead", which are obviously fictitious names and designed to protect the identities of the real young men in question.

The book is a tragic tale of these

young men whose only allies in the fight for acceptance and understanding are each other. It details their daily struggle by providing us with detailed accounts of their activities, a brief history of their family, assorted reports from teachers, administrators, psychologists and Santa. Both youths are deeply troubled, one is obsessed with fire, and the other with sex. They come from broken homes, are descended from criminals and psychopaths and have obviously been adversely affected by the inbreeding that took place at least once in their "Family Bush". Their lives are a sad mix of television, chainsaws, spraypaint and fire.

In addition to providing us with much insight into the lives of Beavis and Butthead, the book also includes free guitar lessons, a section of Haiku poetry, cooking tips and more than one picture of each one's ass. Heh heh heh, I said, "ass". This

Book Sucks also contains brilliant and obscure insights on history, among them, the revelation that in 1850, Rambo kicked the Germans butts in the Vietnam War. This was of course followed by Elvis' invention of the electric guitar and subsequent presidency in the fifties. Personally, I was unaware that any of this had happened until I read the "Hysterectomy" section of the book. Also worth mentioning is the section on "The Do's and Don'ts of Teen Hygiene".

There isn't much else to say about this book. I would definitely keep it away from young children though, since we all know that it alone could elicit deviant behavior from them. I do, however recommend it to fans of MTV's "Beavis and Butthead". It's a cool book to read when you're like, taking a crap, or something.

'Stone Free' a spotty tribute to Hendrix's genius

By Bert Pimental
Strobe staff

Lying back to listen to the new Jimi Hendrix tribute album, *Stone Free*, I wonder whether or not I will enjoy the music; after all, they are Hendrix's songs. The question is—will the various artists covering these songs in their own style make them worthy of equal praise with the originals? The answer is—only an elite few.

Out of fourteen songs on the album with musicians ranging from The Cure, to Living Color, to guitar virtuoso Jeff Beck, there were only four songs comparable to Jimi's originals. Slash and Paul Rodgers teamed up with Band of Gypsys, who actually played with Hendrix for a while, to record an outstanding version of "I Don't Live Today". Mike McCready and Jeff Ament of Pearl Jam paired up with Chris Cornell and Matt Cameron of Soundgarden to record their distinctive interpretation of "Hey Baby (Land of the Rising Sun)", highlighted by Cornell's raw vocal performance. Buddy Guy, whom Hendrix himself was influenced by, performs a smokin' version of Jimi's blues masterpiece "Red House", ripping off such high-piercing guitar screams that my cat ran in the room thinking he was going to get lucky.

The song that stole the show however, was Jeff Beck's unbelievable version of "Manic Depression". After following the basic structure of the original version for a few minutes, the song breaks down and Beck shows why he is known as one of the premier guitarists still alive. Teaming up with Seal, who actually sounds like Hendrix in this recording, Beck makes this song itself worth buying the album for.

All in all I was dissatisfied with a large majority of the musician's interpretation of the most revolutionary and legendary sounds ever created. However, the few songs I did like I was enthralled by, and made the album worth buying.

Wild Kingdom

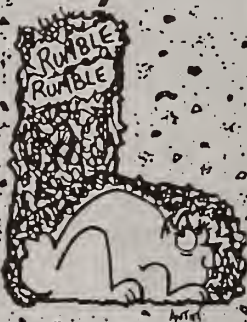
By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

"Words suck (eh-heh eh-heh)" —Butthead "Yeah, (eh-heh eh-heh) words suck" —Beavis

And now, another real-life fairy tale.

Gertrude The Gopher

Once upon a time, there lived a little gopher named Gertrude. One day she was digging deep in her burrow when she thought she heard the rumble of thunder from the surface. "Uh oh," thought Gert, "I must go and see if it is raining, for I do not want my warm dry burrow to become moistened!" She scurried through the tunnels, poked her head out the opening and gazed up toward the cloudless sky.



"Uh oh again..." thought Gert, as the real source of the rumbling—a powerful lawn mower—passed over the opening and hacked her protruding little head clean off.



The End.

Other Children's Stories By Wild Kingdom:

"Grandpa Goes Ga Ga"
"Beavis and Butthead Meet Mother Teresa"
and...

"Snow White and The Seven Rabid Monkeys"

© Anthony Rubino, Jr., 1993

ANSWERS

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'A Perfect World', a not so perfect movie

By Shawn Sullivan
Staff writer

"A Perfect World"
rated pg 13: profanity, violence,
adult situations
starring Kevin Costner, Clint
Eastwood, Laura Dern
** 1/2 (out of four)

There was a certain inevitability about the teaming of Kevin Costner and Clint Eastwood in "A Perfect World". Both men are two of the most intriguing American actors, and their successful careers have a lot in common: they've recently made movies about the assassination of JFK, garnered Oscars after saddling up and directing Best Picture-winning westerns, and have an approach to acting that is different from other top performers like DeNiro and Pacino.

Costner has a tendency of slicing into an apple pie and playing Everymen who glisten with all-American idealism, whereas Eastwood's antiheroes radiate through a philosophical core. In the crime drama "A Perfect World", Costner carves a psychological scar into that idealist persona, and Eastwood offers his reflective input from the director's chair.

It's Halloween, 1963. In Texas, a career criminal named Butch Haynes (Costner) breaks out of prison with a fellow cellmate and has intentions of running until he makes it to Alaska, where he hopes to find his estranged father. Like any intelligent criminal, he wishes to abandon his getaway car and makes a pit stop in a suburban neighborhood miles away. His partner in crime, a particularly loathsome S.O.B., is not so subtle in his ways and elects to force entry into a house where a mother and her son are quietly waiting for All Hallows' Eve to pass them by (their religion denies them participation in the holiday).



Kevin Costner stars as escaped convict Butch Haynes who takes Phillip Perry (T.J. Lowther) hostage in "A Perfect World."

For a brief flash, we see a human side to Haynes, who violently foils his partner's attempted rape on the mother; Haynes then reverts back to type when a good Samaritan neighbor storms the scene with a shotgun, and the fugitive is forced to kidnap the woman's seven year old son to ensure a safe escape. After eventually losing the second criminal in a fatal confrontation, it's Haynes and the seven year old boy named Phillip on the run.

Hot on their trail — well, "hot" is not necessarily the word; "luke-warm" is more like it — are Texas lawman Red Garnett, a sixtyish, meat and potatoes officer who'd rather work alone, and the fellow officers and criminologist who are accompanying him. Garnett is

played with a certain affection for Tater Tots by Clint Eastwood, who, like I said, has preferred to do his philosophical musings from behind the camera. Garnett is not a particularly fascinating character, and if he possesses any intrigue, it's because by now we are all awed by the screen presence of Eastwood himself. The rest of the police officers joining Garnett on the manhunt are just your basic, one note lugheads with blood first on their minds, and then justice. Laura Dern ("Jurassic Park") brings enough credibility to the role of the criminologist, creating an eventually respectable working relationship with Red, and defeating the movie's prevailing macho attitude with one swift kick of her knee.

It is that prevailing macho attitude that makes up those philosophical musings Eastwood is pondering from the director's chair. "World" takes aim at the Missing Father, and skewers him with a dangerous psychosis. Just as Philip's father left him at an early age, so did Butch Haynes' father abandon him when he was young, leaving him to be raised by his mother in a New Orleans whorehouse. As Butch and Philip drive across the state of Texas, an oddly touching relationship forms between them. The man becomes his idea of the perfect paternal figure to the boy, thus allowing both males to enjoy something that they never had: a loving father.

"A Perfect World" is far from a

perfect movie, and that comes as a slight surprise because both Costner and Eastwood are fresh from numerous smash hits and critical praise. Two of the film's problems are easily identifiable, but a third issue is not so easy to distinguish. For starters, "World" goes on forever; it's a tedious 141 minutes, containing a drawn out conclusion that could have been cut down to a leaner, meaner wrap-up. Second of all (and this will come as a disappointment to many), Costner and Eastwood only appear on screen together during the last five minutes, and even then minimal dialogue is exchanged. This is a curiosity, given the fascination the audience would have had in watching these two stars go man a man in a psychological game of cat-and-mouse. Finally, "World" does a baffling tightrope walk, teetering between sheer complexity and mere confusion; we understand the thematic depths of machismo in the story, but we're unable to make a firm grasp on the characters, primarily the Butch Haynes character. As portrayed by Costner in one of his finest performances ever, Butch involves us, makes us laugh, and even scares us, but after a few twists, we're never entirely sure what to think about him.

In fact, that could very well be said about the whole movie. I see with this review that I have deviated from my usual style: in trying to fall back on my generic, soundbite approach, I've been backed into a corner where in-depth analysis is the only way to go. As a result, I am as confused as I was when I originally left the theater over a week ago. On the surface of this emotional drama, there's fine performances, well-crafted action, dry humor, and nail biting suspense. If you dig deeper, you'll find that "A Perfect World" is either styled with a slick complexity, or mired in hazy confusion.

Carlito strives for a new way

by Danielle Sullivan
Strobe staff

Director Brian De Palma's latest film, "Carlito's Way", starring Al Pacino, has been criticized for too closely resembling "Scar Face", a previous movie by this dynamic actor/director team. As a reviewer for the film, I could point out all of the similarities and call this movie stale, but I'll be honest - I really enjoyed it.

The year is 1975 and Pacino is Carlito Brigante, a Bronx drug dealer let out of jail after five years on a technicality, and a man determined to set his life straight. He plans to move to the Bahamas and run a car rental agency, but first he must earn a little money to finance his trip. With a little help from his friend and lawyer, David Kleinfeld, he strikes up a business deal which is to help run a night club that is in danger of closing and to keep it clean.

It is a glamorous world that Carlito meets when he is freed from prison - no longer a marijuana ob-

sessed scene, but one sprinkled with money, coke and sex. Kleinfeld, played by an unrecognizable Sean Penn, is hooked on coke, and the exciting world of crime, which Carlito is happily steering clear of. Unfortunately, Kleinfeld gets in over his head in the illegal world he does not understand, and appeals to Carlito for his help. Kleinfeld was the lawyer to get him out of jail, so Carlito feels he must comply.

Pacino plays his role well. Carlito is a man obsessed with staying on the straight and narrow, yet trouble follows him. He is a haunted individual, one with dreams he might never reach, yet he keeps hoping. The last minutes of the movie are deceiving; you truly feel that Carlito will reach his goal, yet the movie opens with a shot of his death. The viewer feels empty. The good guy is supposed to always win, yet Pacino's underdog character is once again let down.

Penn is unbelievable as David Kleinfeld, and you immediately

hate the tag-along, coke snorting, crooked lawyer that he is. With no regard for his friend, and seeming to have not a shred of conscience, he drags Carlito down with him.

Penelope Ann Miller is Carlito's love interest, Gail, who only intensifies the hope Carlito has of one day achieving his dream. She has her own dreams of being a dancer, yet right now she performs topless to make ends meet. These two characters are meant for one another - to ride off into the sunset. The tragic ending is emotional and heartrending.

As for the scenery in the film itself, De Palma dazzles the eye with the racy nightclub scenes, accompanied with plenty of great disco music, posh seaside estates and the spicy, dirty streets of Carlito's Puerto Rican neighborhood in the Bronx.

"Carlito's Way" is a powerful movie. I left the theatre with my head spinning, analyzing where friendship, loyalty and trust disappear to when confronted with money, drugs and power.

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Announcements

Audio compact discs are available in the library for student use. These discs are listed in the OPAC -Online public access catalogs - computers located in the middle of the first floor of the library. These discs are arranged by call number and are available at the Circulation Desk. There is a compact disc player on the 3rd floor and headphones are needed which are also available at the Circulation Desk. Audio compact discs can be checked out for four weeks so be sure to bring your FSC I.D. card.

Counseling Services will be offering several groups and workshops this semester. These include:

- Adult Children of Alcoholics Beginner's Group, Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00 in B16.
- Adult Child of Alcoholics Therapy Group, please call X3152 for more information.
- Past Sexual Trauma Group will be offered at two different times. Please call X3152 for more information.
- Relationships Group, Thursdays, 3:30-5:00, in B26/27.
- Meditation Group, Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00, in B26/27.
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and People Questioning Their Sexual Identity Group, please call X3152 for more information.

- Potential groups for the future will focus on eating disorders and coping with loss. If interested in attending such groups, students should contact Counseling Services.

Come join us to share, learn and grow together. For more information, call x3152, or stop by the Counseling Services Office on the 3rd floor of the Hammond Building between 2:00-3:00.

The Newman Center and Chapel Schedule of Services:

Sunday Mass - 11 am
Monday mass - 8 pm
Tuesday Eucharistic Service - 4:30 pm
Wednesday Night Prayer - 4:30 pm
Long Weekends - NO Sunday Mass
Holy Days - 4:30 pm

Sacrament of Penance:
Monday - 7:30 pm

Christmas Mass & Reception - Saturday, December 11, 7:00 pm.

Students with Disabilities Peer Support Group Meeting. All are welcome. Let's talk. Every Tuesdays 6:00 pm G-06.

Poets, Writers, Photographers and Artists...Schimshaw 94 announces a call for submissions of Poetry, Fiction, Photography and Artwork (Black and White). Send all literary submissions to Zimra Panitz (Campus Mail). Bring all Artwork/Photography to Sandra Perkins, Communications/Media Secretary, Rm 320. All submissions must have the following information: Name, Box Number, Major, Year of Graduation, Title (Literary Submissions) and Media (Artwork/Photography). Deadline is December 10.

Wanted: A treasurer for the Class of 1995. If interested, please send a letter of intent to the Class of 1995 mailbox 6714.

Discussion groups for the Human Services Club are held on the Wednesdays at the club meetings. They're held in the Commuter Cafe at 3:30pm. The group discusses classes, practicums, internships, and related subjects. Meetings are held in P1. Anyone who is planning to attend the discussion group is asked to leave their name and mailbox number in Joyce Aucoin's mailbox, # 1196 by 3:00 pm the Wednesday that the group is meeting.

For Women's History Month, an essay contest is being held. There are two categories: 1) an essay on women's issues or 2) a research paper on women's issues, including a historical perspective. There is a fifty dollar prize for each category. The winners will present their papers at a special reception on March 22, 1993. The deadline for receipt of papers is January 23, 1992. Please submit four copies of your writing to box 5130. Do not put your name on your essay or paper. Please provide a separate cover sheet with your name, address and phone number. Sponsored by the Social Science Department.

The English Department and English Club are sponsoring a Holiday Gathering on Thursday December 9 in G-04 at 1:30.

On Saturday, December 11 at 7:00 pm there will be a musical and educational evening to benefit the Nashua River Watershed Association at the Performing Arts Center on Rte. 119 in Groton. It will feature musical performances by Late August, Born Bluezers, and Mere Mortals. There will also be special guest speakers. Tickets are \$10 and are on sale at the Performing Arts Box Office.



PERSONALS

T,
It's about time she was checked,
I owe you one.
MAC

T,
Can we keep it anonymous next time...
G

Merry Christmas to the 2nd floor girls at 61. Only one semester left. Jagger

No matter where we go or end up.
You know I love ya Whit!
Nicole

Hey Bri-Guy,
Merry X-Mas from your sweet-heart Erin. Let's blow out the radio again! Soon!

Ox
You're a little wise ass.
BooDer

Duggan
Fabio wants a kiss!
Booder

Where's my piano? We were starting to look like them, Deet!

Hey big June. You had better watch out because Dukie will strike again. Miss you!

Dean and LaVita better give me rent for hanging out in my room. Bye bye Poopala!

Hey Snow St.
Get your mother off the fence.

R. Where the hell is the RUG!!!

R. You are a loser.

Dom,
How does this look?
K

What's really kind of wonderful about Lenny and LaVita is midnight runs to Purity.

MIKE - It's big but not too big. Robin

Row, no more 6:00 in the morning. Twin

You mean to tell me that you can do it for 24 hours??

So you wanna be a cowgirl!!!

Ted M.
I love you. I know you don't like men and sheep.

Shut up b**tch.

YEP rules, JAH drools (at our greatness)

I love the ATTIC QUEEN!

Let's call the Board of Health Grant!

We miss you Kirby
53

Jen P.
Does Kevin dance with the pole better than me!
Patrick S.

203 parties like mo's
55 parties like ho's
53 just doesn't party

What's up my fellow bluntheads?
From S.J.

The Bam rocks.

Remember the tickets? I now have a White Gretsch Falcon autographed by Jurt and Chris of Nirvana. I'll give you a really good deal. Low \$\$! Low \$\$! Waw Curry 342-9446. (call past 12 am)

To Tom
Wish you weren't leaving so soon but you know I'll always be here for you.
Love, Kooch

Amy,
You're almost out of here, but you know you'll never be far from my heart.
Luv ya, Chris B.

To Rosey, Kat, Kristen, Andy, Leo +Gang,
Thanks for some of the best times of my life and especially for all the great memories we've made together at FSC.
Friends forever,
Chris

Tony,
Shall we play?
K.L.K.

To Sigma Pi,
You are a bunch of no shows. Watch out for the wave!
Sigma Tau Gamma

Merry Christmas to everyone at FSC except Boudier Sigma Pi.
Ox

Antonietta,
Best of luck on your finals. Thanks for being there for me.
Luv ya, P.A.

To the guys at 78 N
You guys are the s**t! (in the tub)
Ha-ha.

Mr-man,
Why you playing "Hard-to-get?"
Pam- Wet rat s**t rule.
Kate-I'm spinning.
Coley- over the river and...

YEP rules, JAH drools (at our greatness)

175's walls are thin! I heard you last Saturday night Bill. Great sound effects. You go Betty! And...it happens to the best of us, but if you ever want to see GOVERNOR again... Signed, too much Punch

To all who partied in Boston over Thanksgiving weekend at Jake Ivory's. You guys are so crazy!! Let's do it over Christmas break, too!!

Jen- I love the bodysuit but it's a bit painful - you know where - love, you know who

Poops- I'm dreaming of a White Christmas with you (and lots of smooches, no spanking!)
Love, Poopy

Hey EH!
Let's see if country boys really can survive (again)! Annapolis?
CS

Dear Brat,
Aren't you glad that I won "at darts"?
Love, Chrisy

Tricia - where's Mr. Ferret?

Dough
Don't you wish you could see my rings!
Steph

The heat is on!

To the Duff-guy - Oi!

Strobe Staff,
It's been real.
Love, Jen

Tricia, Sue, Mellisa, Quinn, Andrea,
Don't say I never sent you a personal.
Jen

Tree Shaker,
Next time I'll bring the Peaches, if you'll be sure to bring the cream. Thursday 4:30 at the mailboxes. Tree

To all my former roomies- Merry Christmas!
Love, Danielle

Girls at 116 B
Happy Holidays!
The Bam

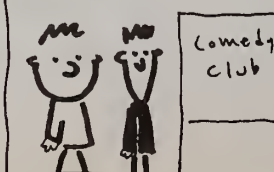
167,
Sorry our Xmas festivities have to fall on the same night.
The Bam

The Bam sends a heartfelt thanks to Ox and Matt - hopefully we'll never have to use you guys again
Peace

Jim's Journal

by Jim

Today Steve and I went to see Mike perform his stand-up routine



It was a small club, and there were hardly any people there.

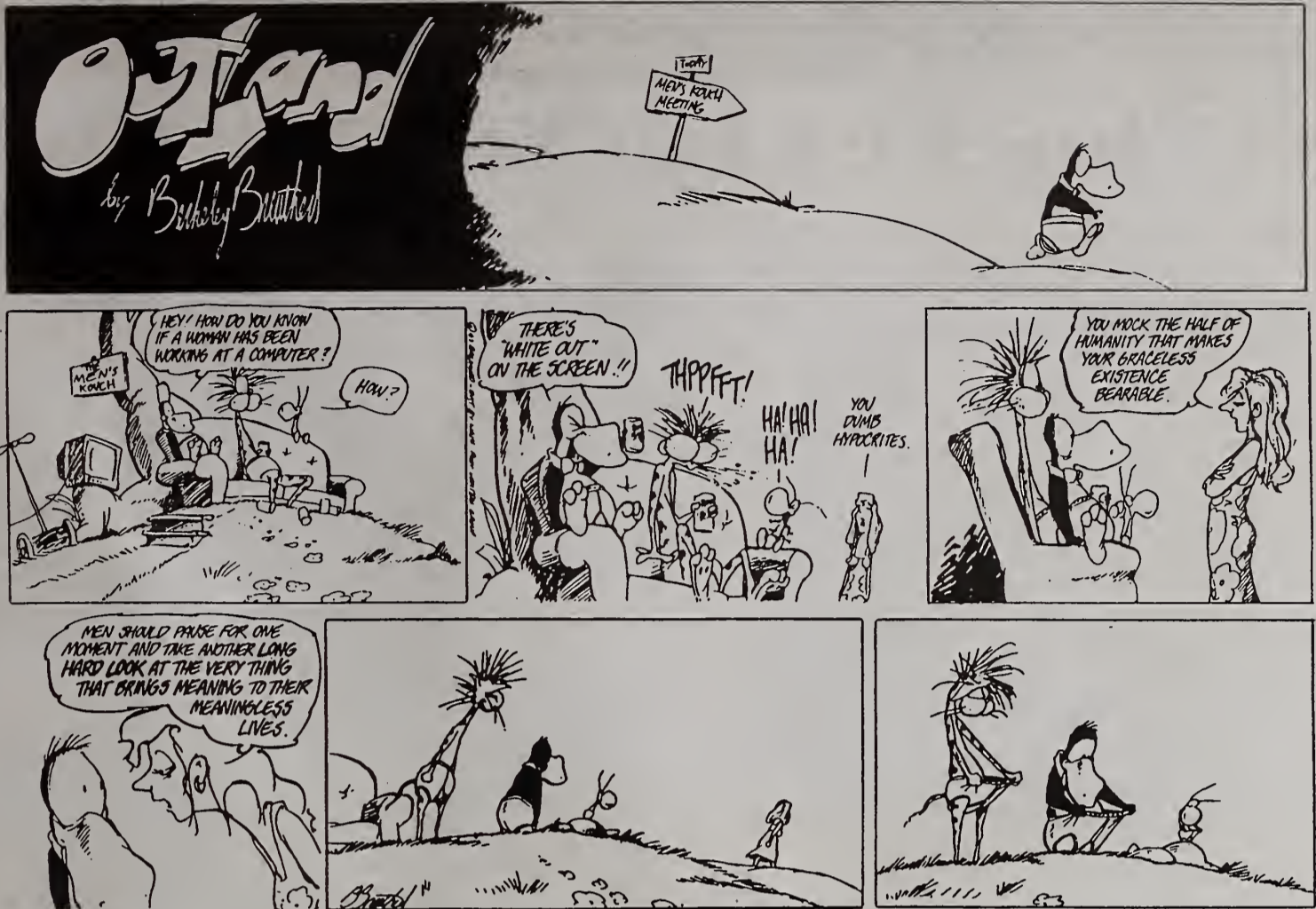


Mike was the third of four comedians to perform, and Steve and I thought he was pretty funny.



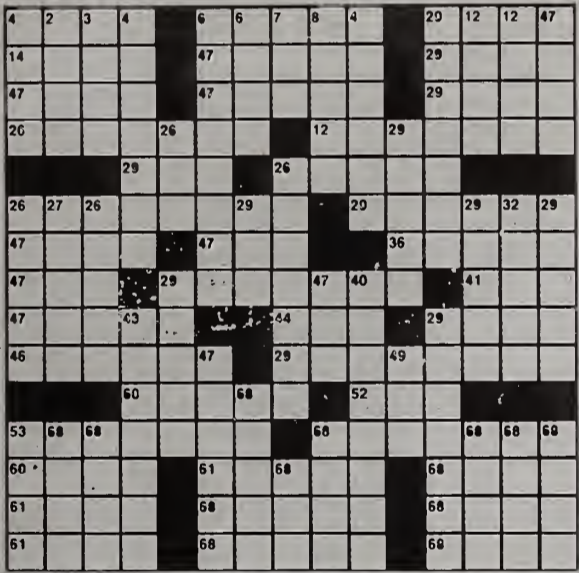
He came to sit with us afterwards and said, "Not exactly the Tonight show, but hey."





THE Crossword

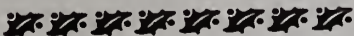
- ACROSS
- 1 Beer ingredient
 - 5 Large amount
 - 10 Rude building
 - 14 Ready for publication
 - 15 Group of wives
 - 16 Weary
 - 17 Burrowing animal
 - 18 State a view
 - 19 Otherwise
 - 20 Equip
 - 22 Tilted
 - 24 Deep hole
 - 25 Memento
 - 26 Free from bondage
 - 30 Carved
 - 34 Ancient
 - 35 Liquid meas.
 - 36 Make very happy
 - 37 "— be seeing you"
 - 38 Charged with a gas
 - 41 Massage
 - 42 Helicopter blade
 - 44 Brooch
 - 45 Soft drink
 - 46 Rx directions
 - 48 Fireworks item
 - 50 Thin material
 - 52 Murray or West
 - 53 Shaded walk
 - 56 Kind of paste-up art work
 - 60 Desert sight
 - 61 Arabian ruler
 - 63 Group of sailors
 - 64 Volcanic peak
 - 65 Non-com
 - 66 Employ
 - 67 Paste shut
 - 68 Grooved face of a tire
 - 69 Sweet potatoes



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- 7 Jackie's husband
- 8 Thickheaded
- 9 Scents
- 10 Sign painter's equipment
- 11 Sword handle
- 12 Gaelic
- 13 Heroic action
- 21 Manner
- 23 Felt sick
- 25 Turn for the worse
- 26 Scot. estate owner
- 27 Eskimo home
- 28 Sashes
- 29 Fix a roof
- 31 Holiday song
- 32 Musical piece
- 33 Exclude
- 38 Discuss hotly
- 39 Gratuity
- 40 In love (with)
- 43 Cereal
- 45 Lacking details
- 47 First-born
- 49 Raced
- 51 Truman's birthplace
- 53 Summer quenchers
- 54 Musical instrument
- 55 Siam visitor
- 56 Large: pref.
- 57 Opera solo
- 58 Disease source
- 59 Sheep
- 62 Before

Answers on page 8.



Wild Kingdom

Distributed by Tribune Media Services
By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

THINGS THAT SUCK

"By trying we can easily learn to endure adversity. Another man's, I mean."—Mark Twain

Burning the roof of your mouth so bad, that a little piece of skin hangs down and flaps around on your tongue for like, two days.

Dialing a wrong number and being punished by that ear-drum rupturing, high-frequency squeal. This is usually followed by the operator saying something like; "We're sorry we have permanently damaged your hearing. Please check the number and dial again."

Atempting, unsuccessfully, to remove a sufficiently large piece of toilet paper from a very stiff dispenser. This occurs when the tissue is on the dispenser so tightly that it will not roll freely enough to get anything more than useless tiny bits.

EASY. EASY. EASY.

Mosquitoes—in more ways than one (think about it).

© Anthony Rubino, Jr., 1993

FSC hockey racks up win, tie

by Michael Gordon
Strobe staff

Just before the Thanksgiving break, the Falcon hockey team played host to Worcester State at the Wallace Civic Center. FSC may have been looking ahead to the break a bit prematurely. Once again the Falcons came out flat. This has been a problem for the team early in this season.

Worcester came out playing inspired hockey. They skated well and kept pressure on the Fitchburg defense early and often. But the Falcons would respond first. Junior Steve Lyden opened the scoring as he deflected in a shot from the point to give the Falcons the lead. However, Worcester tied the game on a fluke goal.

The scored remained tied through most of the second period. Fitchburg was hitting everything in sight but this didn't seem to phase a good Worcester team. They kept their composure and played solid team defense. This strategy began to wear on the Falcons. Worcester sat back and waited for their chances which eventually paid off. Worcester added two second period goals and the teams headed to the locker room with the score, 3-1.

Coach Fuller must be keeping some type of motivation potion in



FSC hockey player handles the puck.

photo by Eric Magiera

the dressing room because their seems to be two different teams that play for Fitchburg when the third period arrives. The Falcons came out flying. Freshman forward Dan Genatossio continues to shine as he put the home team within one goal about half way through the final period.

Worcester continued to be pressed by a relentless Falcon forecheck. But they could only with-

stand so much pressure. Freshman Paul Connor scored on what appeared to be the only way the Falcons are scoring these days- by tipping in shots from the defense. The game wastied at three at the end of regulation.

After a five minute break, the teams played the league rule, five minute overtime. Both teams seemed willing to let the other make the crucial mistake in order to capi-

talize, but each played errorless hockey and the game ended in a 3-3 tie.

The Curry Colonels came to the Fitchburg after the turkey break. Coach Fuller shook up the lines in attempt to get more scoring from the forwards. This move appeared to be doomed early. Fitchburg struggled with a much weaker opponent on this night. It was one of those games where the better team plays down to

the level of its opponent. Fitchburg has much greater depth and talent than Curry, but the Colonels would die hard, and what looked like a potential blow out, turned into a bit of a scare for the Falcons.

Dan Genatossio opened the scoring early. Genatossio received a beautiful pass from linemate Steve Baldassare, split the defense, and beat the goaltender five hole. Curry quickly tightened up the defense and then answered with a goal of their own. As the teams continued to just throw the puck around the ice for half a period, Steve Lyden had had enough. The forward barreled down the left wing, carried the puck around the net, and found an open Mike McCarthy who slammed home the go ahead goal.

The lead wouldn't last. Curry came down on goaltender Aaron Abitz who was making his Fitchburg debut, and jammed home a bouncing puck. The second period in a 2-2 tie.

The Falcons flew into the locker room, found a new container of that potion, and came out and buried the Colonels. Fitchburg racked up five third period goals to win 7-2. Falcon Matt Park said after the game, "They (Curry) worked hard all night and wouldn't give up. Their goalie played excellent, but we were just too much for 'em."

Men's basketball expected to improve 2-3 record

by Sean McCarthy
Staff writer

Fitchburg State's men's basketball team is one game under .500 after their first five games. The Falcons presently stand at 2-3 and are expecting to improve steadily. FSC opened the season against Eastern Nazarene at the Plymouth State tournament. Early season jitters were evident as Fitchburg shot a poor 43 percent in the first half. Nazarene went into half time with a four point lead.

Leading the way for Fitchburg was Joe Vanuni with 24 points. Derek Poiras also contributed with 12 boards in the losing effort. The Falcons lost 79-69 in a decent opening effort.

The next game saw FSC go against a stacked Salve Regina squad. Tri-captain Richard Harding had a big game for the Falcons with 24 points. Harding's fellow tri-captain Eric Freund chipped in with 16 points of his own and managed 9 rebounds in

the process.

The Falcons looked much better in this game and went into halftime with a one point lead. But keeping the lead proved difficult and the Falcons dropped their second straight game by losing 88-78.

UMass-Boston hosted the next tournament in which the Falcons picked up their first victory of the season as they split the two game series. Fitchburg played the first game against the host UMass-Boston and were not treated with hospitality. The Falcons' biggest problem in this game was their inability to control the boards. A team total, 31 rebounds, wouldn't be enough to compete against Boston's 45 boards.

Richard "Mookie" Harding led the way again for Fitchburg with his usual 24 points. One of the stronger performances of the night was put in by sixth man extraordinaire, Nick Chareas. Chareas tossed in 14 points and tore down 10 boards. Eric Freund also contributed in the losing effort with 14 points. The Falcons lost by their largest margin of the

year, 83-67.

The 0-3 Falcons would not be denied in their second game. Fitchburg played a winless Anna Maria College squad. Taking the reigns again was Richard Harding who scored 28 points which helped earn him a spot on the all-tournament team. Harding has certainly established himself as the "go to guy" on the team.

Nick Chareas earned himself a spot in the starting line up and didn't disappoint coach Bonci. Chareas scored 20 points to go along with an awesome 16 rebounds. Chareas also received tournament honors as he captured the Sportsmanship Award. Joe Vanuni re-emerged from a slow start by shoveling in 22 points and handing off four assists.

Fitchburg went into halftime with a six point lead. Anna Maria fought back though and sent the game into overtime. Fitchburg came up big in the extra period and squeaked out a 16-14 overtime win helping the Falcons record their first win of this young season.

Too much politics ruin the NCAA

by Michael Gordon
Strobe staff

It all begins with Pop Warner football. You learn the fundamentals. How to tackle, run, throw and catch. Some kids have the natural athletic ability and others don't. This is when young teenagers begin to dream about making it to the NFL.

Once these young athletes get to high school, their next goal is to receive a scholarship letter from a major college or university. Many athletes will receive several offers and will have to make the difficult decision of where to go. There will be hundreds of phone calls to coaches, scouts, and financial aid offices along with frequent campus visits.

Those that are serious about a professional career will travel the route which will gain these youngsters the most exposure. The schools with the big television contracts, winning records, and tradition will top the list.

But for many, the big college career can become a nightmare. Dreams become lost at the hands of athletic politicians and the egoistical committees which they represent. This is all due to their senseless disciplinary actions imposed on the football programs for violations of NCAA rules.

It's not the strictness of the rules that's a problem, but it's the manner in which these violations are punished. For example, take a look at this year's Auburn University program. The Tigers had a perfect 11-0 record at the end of

the regular season but can't participate in a bowl game or have a shot at a national championship. The program was placed on probation for an incident which occurred over five years ago.

Every player on this Auburn team was probably in high school at the time and had no idea that such actions would wash away their dreams when they chose to attend the university. The incident which occurred had nothing to do with these athletes. There's simply no reason why they should suffer for the mistakes of others. Even if no one person can be blamed, there must be other means of discipline as opposed to the "punish everybody" attitude.

This type of action not only hurts the players but the entire student body. The students are fans just like anybody else and want to see their team win a championship.

And can you figure out why West Virginia isn't playing for a national championship? Regardless, Florida State is the best team in the nation, but I don't believe they should have a chance to win the championship over the Mountaineers.

If we think Nebraska should be number one because they are undefeated, then by that admission West Virginia should be number two. It only makes sense. That's the problem with sports; there is too much politics involved. Also, Las Vegas has embarrassed the NCAA by making the Seminoles a two touchdown favorite over their number one ranked team. How pathetic.

Sports Quote of the Week!

"If you're a head coach, NFL means Not For Long!" - Jerry Glanville